

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A computer-implemented speech recognition system comprising:
 - a microphone to receive user speech;
 - a speech recognition engine coupled to the microphone, and being adapted to recognize the user speech and provide a textual output on a user interface; and
 - wherein the system is adapted to recognize a user changing the textual output and automatically, selectively adapt the speech recognition engine to learn from the change.; and

wherein the recognition engine is adapted to determine if a user's pronunciation caused an error, and selectively modify a probability associated with an existing pronunciation.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the recognition engine includes a user lexicon, and wherein the user lexicon is updated if the correction is a word that is not in the user's lexicon.
4. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the recognition engine is adapted to determine if the user's pronunciation caused the error, and selectively learn the new user's pronunciation.
5. (Cancelled)

6. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the recognition engine includes a user lexicon, and wherein the system is adapted to add at least one word pair to the user lexicon if the correction is not due to a new word, or a new pronunciation.

7. (Amended) A method of learning with an automatic speech recognition system, the method comprising:

detecting a change to dictated text;

inferring whether the change is a correction, or editing;

and

wherein inferring whether the change is a correction, or editing includes comparing a speech recognition engine score of the dictated text and of the changed text;
and

if the change is inferred to be a correction, selectively learning from the nature of the correction without additional user interaction.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein inferring whether the change is a correction further includes detecting whether the user selected from an alternate list to make the change.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein inferring whether the change is a correction further includes measuring the amount of time between dictation and the change.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein inferring further includes detecting the number of words changed.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein selectively learning from the nature of the correction includes determining if the corrected word exists in the user's lexicon, and adding the corrected word to the lexicon if it does not already exist.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein:
if the corrected word does exist in the user lexicon,
selectively learning from the nature of the correction further includes,
determining if the user's pronunciation deviated from existing pronunciations known by the system; and selectively learning the pronunciation.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein determining if the user's pronunciation deviated from existing pronunciations includes doing a forced alignment of the a wave based on at least one context word if such word exists.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein determining if the user's pronunciation deviated from existing pronunciations includes identifying in the wave the pronunciation of the corrected word.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, and further comprising building a lattice based upon possible pronunciations of the corrected word and the recognition result.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, and further comprising generating a confidence score based at least in part upon the distance of the newly identified pronunciation with existing pronunciations.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, and further comprising generating a confidence score based at least in part upon an Acoustic Model score of the newly identified pronunciation with existing pronunciations.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein selectively learning the pronunciation includes comparing the confidence score to a threshold.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein selectively learning the pronunciation further includes determining whether the new pronunciation has occurred a pre-selected number of times.

21. (Original) The method of claim 7, selectively learning from the nature of the correction includes adding at least one word pair to the user's lexicon.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein at least one word pair is added to the user's lexicon temporarily.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the length of time the word pair is added to the user's lexicon is based at least partially upon the most recent time the word pair is observed and the relative frequency that the pair has been observed in the past.

24. (New) A method of learning with an automatic speech recognition system, the method comprising:

detecting a change to dictated text;
inferring whether the change is a correction based at least partially upon the number of words changed; and

if the change is inferred to be a correction, selectively learning from the nature of the correction.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein if the change is inferred to be a correction, requesting a user confirmation.